

CSD Talking Points

Intro

- Central Sands Dairy (CSD), LLC maintains approximately 5000 Mature Dairy Cows and applies manure and fertilizer to approximately 7000 acres of crop fields in central Wisconsin near Petenwell Lake, a man-made reservoir on the Wisconsin River.
- The geology in the area contains sandstone aquifers and sandy top soil which increases infiltration. Groundwater flow in this area is toward Petenwell Lake. Petenwell Lake is impaired for Total Phosphorus and experiences extensive blue-green algal blooms.
- Nitrate contamination in private wells has been found for several years and despite citizen concerns, the state has not determined the source of contamination.
- In 2012, the owners of Central Sands Dairy submitted an application to build another Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation, Golden Sands Dairy, LLC, Northeast of Central Sands Dairy, LLC in Saratoga, Wisconsin prompting increased citizen concerns.
- In September of 2012, citizens hired a consultant to evaluate CSD's nutrient management plan and operation. The study reported levels of nitrates up to 31 mg/L in private drinking water wells in the area.
- In light of contamination issues in Kewaunee County, Wisconsin and continued citizen concerns, in 2017, EPA inspected the CSD's CAFO production area and sampled private wells in the area and found significant nitrate contamination. In May, 2018 EPA sampled 41 groundwater locations and more private wells to determine the contamination source.

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

- Since at least 2014, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture (DATCAP) has tested private wells and transmitted the results to citizens in letters stating that "... DHS recommends that all people avoid long-term consumption of water having nitrate concentrations greater than 10 mg/L." They did not investigate the contamination source.

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

- EPA's May 2018, sampling work was conducted at private wells downgradient of fields that CSD identified for spring 2018 manure application. All 5 of the private well samples found >10 mg/L of nitrates ranging from 21.9 mg/L to 40.4 mg/L.

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